

REMARKS

The present application was filed on November 26, 2003 with claims 1-20. Claims 1-18 and 20 were pending prior to the amendments made herein, with claims 1 and 20 being the independent claims. Claim 19 was previously canceled by the Examiner.

Claims 1-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,770,963 (hereinafter "Wu").

In this response, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 20, and added a new claim 21. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of these amendments and the remarks to follow.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 in order to more clearly and distinctly set forth the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. More specifically, claim 1 as amended specifies that the recited at least one internal bus further comprises at least three separate parallel pairs of internal buses, with a first one of the pairs of internal buses being arranged adjacent and parallel to a first side of the peripheral region, a second one of the pairs of internal buses being arranged adjacent and parallel to a second side of the peripheral region opposite the first side of the peripheral region, and a third one of the pairs of internal buses being disposed between and parallel to the first and second pairs. Support for the amendment can be found in FIGS. 1 and 2 of the drawings, and in the associated text in the specification at, for example, page 6, lines 17-28.

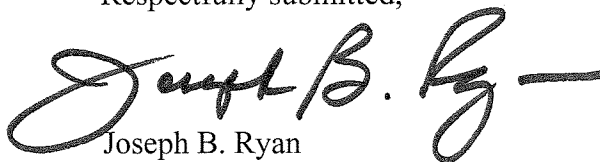
It is respectfully submitted that the Wu reference fails to disclose or suggest an arrangement of the type recited in amended claim 1.

A similar amendment has been made to claim 20.

New claim 21 corresponds generally to original claim 19 that had been previously canceled, but the objected-to terms "configurable" and "connectable" have been replaced with the terms --configured-- and --connected--, respectively. This addresses the points relating to original claim 19 raised in the Decision on Appeal dated August 31, 2007, at page 5, last five lines, to page 6, first two lines. Claim 21 also includes additional limitations similar to those of amended claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that claims 1-18, 20 and 21 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph B. Ryan", followed by a horizontal line.

Date: May 6, 2008

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